

Louisville brewery known for pushing the line just pulled its proposed third location

Maggie Menderski, Louisville Courier Journal Published 12:55 p.m. ET April 16, 2018 | Updated 1:41 p.m. ET April 16, 2018

A Louisville brewery that is known for pushing the line just hit one it couldn't cross – its upcoming third location.

Against the Grain, 401 E. Main St., had no problem naming its double India pale ale "Citra Ass Down," but asking it to compromise the quality of its facilities was another story.

The brewery/restaurant on Monday announced that it won't be moving to the old Swiss Hall near the Schnitzelburg neighborhood.

"We didn't want to have one place that we were really proud of what we do and one place that we were mostly proud of that we do," Adam Watson, managing member and brewer at Against the Grain, told the Courier Journal.

The project was designed as a progressive space that would feature dining, entertainment and a beer garden, but there were issues rezoning the 2.69 acres from residential to commercial property.

The brewery won't be purchasing the Swiss Hall building at 719 Lynn St. as planned, Watson said.

The project hit a few walls with the entertainment the brewers wanted to host and the hours they wanted to keep, Watson said. The company didn't want to upset the neighbors, and to some extent it seemed like the project would do that, he said.

"Any one of those things we may have found a way to deal with it," Watson said. "We just decided it wasn't going to be the experience we intended."

That concept hasn't been entirely put to bed, though, Watson said, it's just "taking a nap."

The brewery doesn't have specific real estate in mind, but Watson said eventually he'd like to see something comparable to the Swiss Hall plans open somewhere else.

"We're not just going to throw it all in the trash because that location fell through," he said.

The brewery was founded in 2011 by Watson, Sam Cruz, Jerry Gnagy and Andrew Ott. The Swiss Hall project would have joined the Against the Grain's downtown brewpub and its production facility in Portland.

The company expanded in 2017 with Against the Grain Europe with production in Germany at Brauhaus Binkert.

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